

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Thursday, May 29, 2008

**283 County Road, Barrington Public Library, Senior Center,
Barrington, RI**

Pursuant to proper notice, the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Jannitto at 6:30 pm, 283 County Road, Barrington Public Library, Senior Center, Barrington, Rhode Island. Executive Director Pasquale DeLise, and the following Directors were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting:

William Gosselin, John Jannitto, John McElroy, Ian Morrison, Joseph Rego, John Saviano, Frank Sylvia, and John Veader

Director Absent – Allan Klepper

HOUSEKEEPING

Minutes of the following meeting were reviewed.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 7, 2008, be approved.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the minutes of the regular meeting of April 9, 2008, be approved.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the minutes of the Executive Session of April 9, 2008, be approved and sealed.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That the minutes of the Executive Session of May 7, 2008, be approved and sealed.

Director Saviano stated that there was information omitted from the minutes. 1. Union Contract - the percentage amount for the salary increases was missing. 2. the impact of these increase to the Water Authority.

Director Sylvia amended his motion

Amendment: To accept the Executive Session minutes of May 7,

2008, as amended.

Motion passed unanimously.

AUDIT FINANCE COMMITTEE

Director Sylvia reported:

Old Business

1. Status of Water Resources Board Grant Requests, Reimbursement of \$21,659 received. To date BCWA has received \$89,337 from RIWRB for Design of new Shad Pipeline.

ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

Director McElroy reported:

Old Business

1. Shad Pipeline, Recent correspondence from Rehoboth Water District. Item to be discussed at the June Meetings.

2. Policy for Tank Inspection, Executive Director DeLise stated that we would be going out to bid on two tanks at the same time. Metacom Avenue tank is on standby until it is taken off-line for rehabilitation. Director Sylvia asked if the Bristol Town Administrator and the Fire Chief had been notified. Executive Director DeLise stated that they had.

3. East Bay Pipeline – ProvPort, Director Saviano stated that BCWA had spent \$402,242 to date at ProvPort.

New Business

1. Lisa Lane, Bristol, Utility Easement, Committee recommends approval, as presented. Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was

VOTED: To approve installation of water main in easement, as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Director Veader reported:

Old Business

1. Science Fair and Poster & Essay Contest, There was a large crowd here tonight to receive awards, and many very talented children. A “thanks” to Cid Harper and Sue Andrade for all their work.

Director Sylvia thanked Director Veader for his efforts in going to all the schools to promote the Essay Contest. The Board appreciates his efforts.

Director Rego stated that this is the best thing that we do when it comes to public relations.

2. Office Front Yard Landscaping, Engineering Technician Ms. Susan Andrade stated that the \$750 Grant from the State had to be returned. Ms. Andrade stated that she could not find funding for an additional \$2,200 to complete the project.

Committee recommends to approve \$300 to purchase plants. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve \$300 for purchase of plantings, as presented.

3. Employee Review, Committee recommends to approve. Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was

VOTED: To approve salary increases of \$4,800 for Manager of Customer and Commercial Services and \$3,200 for Executive Administrative Assistant, as presented.

Motion passed 7 – 1, Director Saviano abstained.

4. Local 359 Negotiations, New Union Contract distributed to all Directors. Present Contract expires May 10, 2008. Director Veader stated that the new contract has been ratified by the Union. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve new Union Contract, as presented.

Director Saviano commented on the poor economy, with personal bankruptcies, foreclosures, food and gas prices sky rocketing. All of

this puts a burden on our rate payers. This is a fat contract; it is overly generous and should not pass. The Union must give as well as receive, I will be voting against the contract.

Director Morrison stated that he would have appreciated more notice in receiving the contract, he will abstain from voting.

Director Sylvia stated it's unfortunate Director Morrison could not be at meetings. The last few months Directors Veader and Gosselin have been updating the Board and he feels very comfortable with the contract.

Chairman Jannitto stated that BCWA will not have to raise rates for approving this contract.

Director Veader stated that this contract was fair to all parties – the company, employees and rate payers. The salary increases will be the first year with a 4% increase; the second year with a 3.5% increase; the third year with a 3.25% increase; and the fourth year with a 3% increase. Director Veader stated that a lawyer was not used for negotiating the contract and this saves the BCWA about \$25,000 in legal fees. This is a fair contract, he said.

Accounting and MIS Manager Mr. Web Goodwin stated that the salary increase had been included in the O & M Budget.

Motion passed 6 – 1 – 1, Director Saviano voted Nay and Director Morrison abstained.

Director Morrison commended Directors Veader and Gosselin for negotiating the contract.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

John L. McElroy, Jr.

Secretary